

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ROME 04577 111138Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----073290 111143Z /10

O R 111111Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE IMMEDIATE 1237
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 4577

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PBOR, SO, ET
SUBJECT: HORN OF AFRICA: ITALIAN STATEMENT ON SOMALI WITHDRAWAL

REFS: A) ROME 4570 B) ROME 4055

1. WITHIN AN HOUR OF OUR DEMARCHE REPORTED REF A, MFA DIRECTOR
GENERAL GARDINI TELEPHONE DCM TO SAY THAT WHEN OUR
EQUEST FOR GOI DECLARATION WAS REPORTED TO FOREIGN MINISTER
FORLANI, HE IMMEDIATELY ORDERED MFA SPOKESMAN TO ISSUE
STATEMENT. STATMENT, CARRIED IN MARCH 11 NEWSPAPERS,
SAYS THAT SOMALI GOVERNMENT'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW MAKES
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EVEN MORE NECESSARY THE DISENGAGEMENT OF ALL FOREIGN
FORCES IN THE REGION AND THAT THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH
HAS URGED THE CREATION OF CONDITIONS NECESSARY FOR THE
BEGINNING OF NEGOTIATIONS FOR A PEACEFUL AND DURABLE SOLUTION,
HOPES THAT ALL THE INVOLVED PARTIES WILL STRIVE TO ACHIEVE
THAT GOAL WITHOUT FURTHER DELAY AND IN THE INTERSTS OF THE
PEOPLES AFFECTED BY THESE TRAGIC EVENTS.

2. COMMENT: EMBASSY BELIEVES THAT SPEED WITH WHICH FORLANI
REACTED TO OUR REQUEST REFLECTS ITALIAN
INTEREST IN COOPERATING WITH US ON HORN OF AFRICA, AND MAY ALSO
REFLECT FORLANI'S DESIRE TO MAKE AMENDS FOR HIS CRITICISM
OF US POLICY IN THE HORN IN HIS PRESS INTERVIEW LAST WEEK
(REF B). GARDNER

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
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